

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The invention relates to a stanchion ~~as claimed in the preamble of claim 1~~ for a tarpaulin structure, which stanchion can be locked on a fixing member.

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0002]:

BACKGROUND

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0008]:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace paragraph [0007] with the following amended paragraph:

[0007] It is ~~the~~ an object of the invention to provide a stanchion ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~ for a tarpaulin structure, which can be reliably locked and has an improved service life.

Please replace paragraph [0008].

[0008] ~~For the stanchion mentioned at the beginning, this object is achieved according to the invention by the characterizing features of claim 1 in that the~~ The present invention provides a stanchion for a tarpaulin structure that can be locked on a fixing member and that has a counterbearing, and that and a supporting element which can be inserted between the fixing member and the counterbearing is provided.

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] Further advantages and features of the invention emerge from the following description and from the ~~dependent~~ claims.

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0022]:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0036]:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

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On page 16, line 1, please replace the heading as follows:

~~CLAIMS~~ WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

In the Abstract

Please replace the Abstract as presented in the underlying International Application No. PCT/DE03/002054 with the following amended Abstract:

ABSTRACT

~~The invention relates to a~~ A stanchion for a tarpaulin structure, which can be locked onto a fixing member (10). ~~The invention provides a stanchion that~~ The stanchion can be reliably locked and has an improved service life, achieved by the provision of a counter bearing (28) and a support element (29), the latter being inserted between the fixing member (10) and the counter bearing (28).